

CLAIMS

1. A hydro-power generating system comprising:
 - a wheel assembly including at least one rotatable wheel; said rotatable wheel adapted to interface with moving water; said rotatable wheel rotating when contacted by moving water, thereby generating power;
 - a first elongated rigid structure, at least a portion of which being situated above said rotatable wheel; said rigid structure being secured so that the moving water will not cause the rigid structure to move substantially;
 - said wheel assembly including at least one floatation member wherein said rotatable wheel will only be partially submerged in the moving water; said wheel assembly connected to said first elongated rigid structure so that the wheel assembly is held in place in the moving water.
2. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said wheel assembly is slideably connected to said first elongated rigid structure so that rotatable wheel may move vertically as the level of the moving water changes.
3. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said floatation member includes at least one pontoon; said pontoon connected to said rotatable wheel.
4. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said at least one pontoon includes first and second pontoons; said first pontoon located on one side of said rotatable wheel and said second pontoon located on the other side of said rotatable wheel; at least one rod extending upwardly from each of said pontoons; first and second hollow sleeves

extending downwardly from said first elongated rigid structure; said rod from said first pontoon slidably received in said first sleeve and said rod from said second pontoon slidably received in said second sleeve.

5. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 4, wherein the distal end of each rod has a cap, the diameter of which is greater than the diameter of the hollow portion of its corresponding sleeve, whereby the rotatable wheel will not be lowered beyond a predetermined level.

6. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said first elongated rigid structure being raisable and rotatable, whereby the wheel assembly may be removed from the moving water.

7. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 6, wherein said first elongated rigid structure forms a part of a crane; said crane further including a mast and a winch.

8. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 1, further including a screen; said screen adapted to be located in close proximity to, but upstream from, said wheel assembly; said screen permitting water to readily pass there through and reducing the likelihood that debris will interfere with said rotatable wheel.

9. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 8, further including a second elongated rigid member; said screen attached to said second elongated rigid member; said second elongated rigid member being secured so that said screen will be held in place in the moving water.

10. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 1, further including a funnel assembly having a wide open end and a narrow open end; said narrow open end of said funnel assembly adjacent to said wheel assembly; said funnel assembly for increasing the speed of the moving water as the moving water contacts the rotatable wheel.

11. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 1, further including a rotational speed increaser connected to said rotatable wheel.

12. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said second elongated rigid member is removably attached to said first elongated rigid member, thereby further stabilizing said first elongated rigid member.

13. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said funnel is attached to said second elongated rigid member.

14. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said rotatable wheel includes at least first and second cylindrical sections; each of said sections including a plurality of paddles for engagement with the moving water; the paddles of said first section being offset from the paddles of said second section.

15. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 1, further including an anchor assembly; said first elongated rigid structure being connected to said anchor assembly.

16. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 15 wherein said anchor assembly is in the form of a concrete pillar.

17. A hydro-power generating system comprising:

a wheel assembly including at least one rotatable wheel; said rotatable wheel adapted to interface with moving water; said rotatable wheel rotating when contacted by moving water, thus generating power;

a funnel assembly having a wide open end and a narrow open end; said narrow open end of said funnel assembly adjacent to said wheel assembly; said funnel assembly for increasing the speed of the moving water as the moving water contacts the rotatable wheel.

18. A hydro-power generating system comprising:

a wheel assembly including at least one rotatable wheel; said rotatable wheel adapted to interface with moving water; said rotatable wheel rotating when contacted by moving water, thus generating power;

a screen; said screen located in close proximity to and upstream from said wheel assembly; said screen permits water to readily pass there through and reducing the likelihood that debris will interfere with said rotatable wheel.

19. A hydro-power generating system as set forth in Claim 18, further including an elongated rigid structure; said screen attached to said elongated rigid structure; said elongated rigid structure being secured so that the moving water will not cause said elongated rigid structure and said screen to move substantially.